

# Maturity Is...

1. The ability to do a job whether you are supervised or not; finish a job once it is started; carry money without spending it, and be able to bear an injustice without wanting to get even.
2. The ability to control anger and settle differences without violence or destruction.
3. Patience. It is the willingness to postpone immediate gratification in favor of the long-term gain.
4. Perseverance, the ability to sweat out a project or a situation in spite of heavy opposition and discouraging setbacks.
5. The capacity to face unpleasantness and frustration, discomfort and defeat without being bitter, complaint or collapse.
6. Humility. It is being big enough to say, "I was wrong" and "I am sorry." And, when right, the mature person need not experience the satisfaction of saying, "I told you so!"
7. The ability to make a decision and stand by it. The immature spend their lives exploring endless possibilities; then they do nothing.
8. Dependability, integrity, and keeping one's word. It's coming through in a crisis. The immature have excuses for everything. The immature are masters of the alibi. They are confused and disorganized. They are the chronically tardy, the no-shows, the gutless wonders who fold in the crises. Their lives are a maze of broken promises, former friends, unfinished business and good intentions that somehow never materialized.
9. The art of living in peace with that which we-cannot change, the courage to change that which can be changed and the wisdom to know the difference!
10. Something each of us possesses large or small pockets of immaturity: the totally mature individual does not exist. Nor does one grow up all at once. Like physical growth, emotional growth is achieved one day at a time.
11. Unselfishness, responding to the needs of others.